

Application No : 1132**Applicant :** MARQUETTE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**County :** Marquette**Location :** Michigamme Township and
Humboldt Township**Industry**

Mining

Firm Name

Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company

Eligible Jobs : 236 (New) 0 (Retained) 0 (Transfers) 0 (Indirect Tourism)**Private Investment** \$500,000,000

Summary : Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto, a worldwide leader in mining and exploration. Kennecott is the owner, developer and future operator of the Eagle Mine in Michigamme Township, Marquette County. Nickel and copper will be the primary minerals extracted from the Eagle Mine. To process and separate the nickel and copper, Kennecott is refurbishing the Humboldt Mill, located in Humboldt Township, Marquette County. After the initial ore processing at the Humboldt Mill, the product will then be shipped offsite via rail for smelting and further refinement.

The nickel and copper ore produced by Eagle Mine and processed at the Humboldt Mill requires a route built to carry heavy commercial traffic year-round. This is necessary to avoid the need to stockpile nickel and copper ore, haul reduced loads and add substantially to the transportation costs.

Access to the Eagle mine is via Triple A Road. Triple A Road is not constructed to all-season standards. Access to the Humboldt Mill is via M-95 and County Road (CR) 601 south of US-41. County Road 601 is not constructed to all-season standards. Improvements are also needed at the intersection of CR 601 and M-95 to improve turning movements and maintain through traffic on southbound M-95.

Transportation Project(s) :

<u>No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Total Request</u>	<u>Local Match %</u>
1	Triple A Road Reconstruction Widening	\$1,011,000	\$808,800	20%
2	M-95 Resurfacing Widening Turn Lanes/Flares	\$465,098	\$372,078	20%
3	County Road 601 Reconstruction Widening	\$1,821,000	\$1,456,800	20%
Totals		\$3,297,098	\$2,637,678	20%

Summary : In order to address the needs of the Eagle Mine, Triple A Road will be reconstructed and paved to meet all-season standards. Horizontal and vertical alignment and drainage improvements will also be made. These improvements will extend the life span of the roadway and accommodate increased employee and commercial traffic.

The proposed Eagle Mine and Humboldt Mill site improvements will generate a significant amount of employee and commercial traffic between the two facilities. To address this, M-95 will be widened at CR 601, adding a center-left turn lane for southbound M-95 traffic turning onto eastbound CR 601. This dedicated turn lane will improve motorist safety at the intersection.

CR 601, which provides direct access to the Humboldt Mill, is a narrow roadway not built to current all-season standards. To address these deficiencies, the road will be widened and reconstructed. In addition, a steep hill will be flattened, and two sharp curves realigned. These improvements will improve traffic safety as well as allow access for ore trucks year-round.